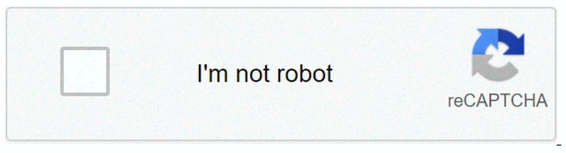

I am not robot!

Similarities and differences of coherence and cohesion

These two terms are often confused and, on initial training courses, sometimes conflated but they are different and need different treatments both in terms of analysis and in the classroom. Both cohesion and coherence refer to how texts, whether spoken or written, make sense through internal connections.
Both cohesion and coherence refer to both sense connections and language connections. but Cohesion describes the way linguistic and meaning connections are made within a text without reference to the knowledge the reader / hearer brings or the wider context in which the text is set. Coherence refers to how sense is made of a text within cultural conventions and in terms of meanings which maybe internal to the text or may refer to the reader / hearer's knowledge of the world or the context in which the text is set.
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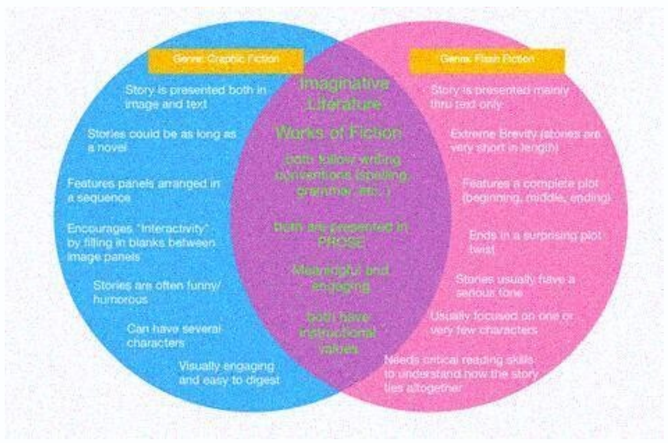

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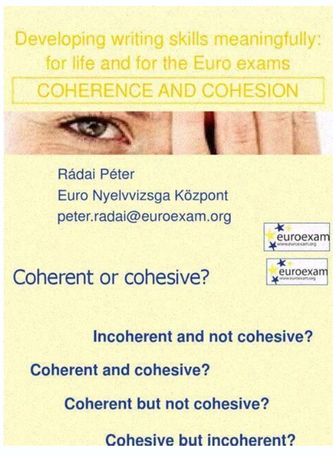

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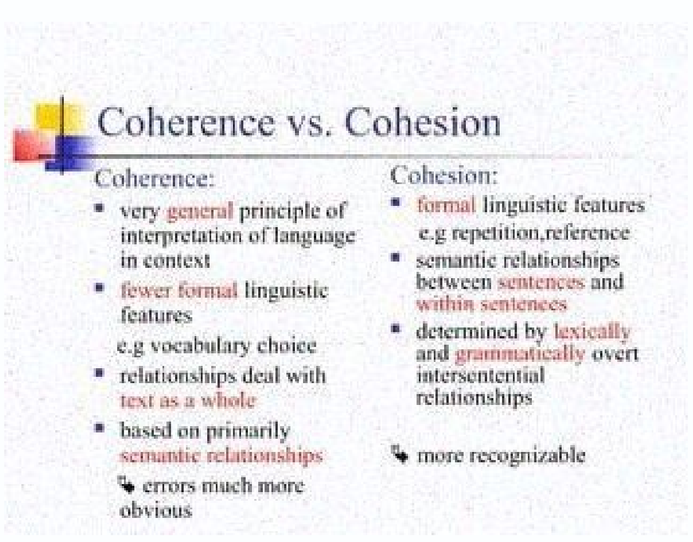

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Difference between Cohesion and Coherence

- Cohesion in a text comes from the rules of sentence connection.
- Coherence means the degree to which a piece of discourse makes sense.
- The following is an example of both cohesion and coherence.
- A : Can you go to Lahore tomorrow?
- B: Yes, I can.
- In this example second sentence is linked with first in sequential order. This is cohesion. It is also coherent because B has given an appropriate response to A.

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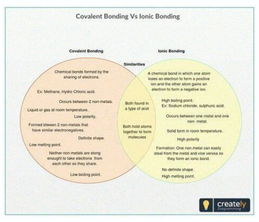

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Conjuncts: The first thing is to make sure the surface is free from grease. Secondly, gently score the surfaces. Finally, apply the glue. As the name implies, conjuncts usually refer to previous clauses, making the sense and grammatical connections clear. Text staging: This happened to me in France. I was trying to hitchhike from Paris to Nice and ... In the end, it all worked out well but next time I'll take the train!Different text types will exhibit different information staging. Here, the example is a recount with a scene setting, a description of what happened and a coda expressing the writer / speaker's response to the events. Lexical chaining Tense forms are usually kept consistent so a text that begins in the present tense usually stays there and a narrative which uses past tenses will normally not stray into other tenses. Certain lexical items will predictably form chains in texts so a text about health will general include a chain of illnesses and complaints along with a chain concerned with health professionals and yet another with a chain of treatments and cures. This phenomenon is to do with the field in which the text maker is operating (the register). As you can see, cohesion and coherence, while being closely linked and showing some overlap are qualitatively different. Trying to tackle both areas at the same time in a classroom is not a recipe for unalloyed success. Try a final matching task. If that's all clear enough to you, you can go on to the guides below (on the right). If you still feel slightly confused, try the links on the left. The answers here are good, but examples are missing. Example of a coherent text that is not cohesive: Summer was over. The boy went to school. The building: Peter had never liked it. All the other class members became easy targets of the lawmaker's son's gun. At 8:15 the massacre began. 7 children would not go home. The last words of the juvenile perpetrator: "I hate Mondays". Example of a cohesive text that is not coherent: You may not fully understand the reasons underlying the incident, so let me try to explain. Namely, it may help your understanding to know that Peter had not been happy about the oranges, after all. Nor was the other Peter ever again able to fly after the aforementioned fruity explanation. Then, weeks later, he realised that it was because my fruit and wings rationale is lacking in substance.
If that is all, you may find it hard to get the point of what I'm driving at. Nevertheless, I think it was worth trying to explain. As should be clear from these examples, coherence without cohesion can be an effective literary technique and in fact is often used that way. Whereas cohesion without coherence is just weird and confusing, and is of very limited use in literature.